

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed May 5, 2006. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 58, 72, 89, 100, and 111 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action for this Application.

Claims 58, 72, 89, 100, and 111 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, and 18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,046. Applicant respectfully defers filing a Terminal Disclaimer pending an allowance of any of these claims.

Claims 58-65, 67, 72-79, 81, 89-95, and 99-106 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Focsaneanu, et al. Independent Claims 58, 72, 89, and 100 recite in general an ability to transport telecommunication information or data packets associated with a plurality of subscribers over a common bus prior to or after packetization. By contrast, the Focsaneanu, et al. patent provides separate line interface cards for each subscriber. As a result, the Focsaneanu, et al. patent does not allow for telecommunication information or data packets to be transported over a common bus prior to or after packetization as required by the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 58-65, 67, 72-79, 81, 89-95, and 99-106 are not anticipated by the Focsaneanu, et al. patent.

Claims 66, 69, 70, 80, 83, 84, 97, 108, and 110 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Focsaneanu, et al. in view of Pounds, et al. and further in view of Bist, et al. Independent Claims 58, 72, 89, and 100 have been shown above to be patentably distinct from the Focsaneanu, et al. patent. Moreover, the Pounds, et al. and Bist, et al. patents do not include any additional disclosure

combinable with the Focsaneanu, et al. patent that would be material to patentability of these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 66, 69, 70, 80, 83, 84, 97, and 110 are patentably distinct from the proposed Focsaneanu, et al. - Pounds, et al. - Bist, et al. combination.

Claims 68, 82, 86, 111, and 112 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Focsaneanu, et al. in view of Lor. Independent Claims 58 and 72 have been shown above to be patentably distinct from the Focsaneanu, et al. patent. In addition, Independent Claim 111 includes similar limitations shown above to be distinguishable from the Focsaneanu, et al. patent. Moreover, the Lor patent does not include any additional disclosure combinable with the Focsaneanu, et al. patent that would be material to patentability of these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 68, 82, 86, 111, and 112 are patentably distinct from the proposed Focsaneanu, et al. - Lor combination.

Claims 71, 85, 96, 98, 107, and 109 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Focsaneanu, et al. in view of Roposh. Independent Claims 58, 72, and 89 have been shown above to be patentably distinct from the Focsaneanu, et al. patent. Moreover, the Roposh patent does not include any additional disclosure combinable with the Focsaneanu, et al. patent that would be material to patentability of these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 71, 85, and 98 are patentably distinct from the proposed Focsaneanu, et al. - Roposh combination.

Claims 87, 88, 113, and 114 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Focsaneanu, et al. in view of Lor. Independent Claims 72 and 111 have been shown

above to be patentably distinct from the Focsaneanu, et al. patent. Moreover, the Lor patent does not include any additional disclosure combinable with the Focsaneanu, et al. patent that would be material to patentability of these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 87, 88, 113, and 114 are patentably distinct from the proposed Focsaneanu, et al. - Lor combination.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments associated with this Application to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles S. Fish', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles S. Fish

Reg. No. 35,870

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